

**From:** [L.A. Business Journal](#)  
**To:** [Kent Smith](#)  
**Subject:** Morning Report: Abundant Lawns Getting Cut Down | Judge Rules Against Uber  
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### **[Abundant Lawns Getting Cut Down](#)**

Lawns will soon shrivel as the California Water Commission just approved sharp limits on landscaping, the [Los Angeles Times](#) reports. Beginning Dec. 1, grass will be limited to 25 percent of the front, back and side yards of newly built homes. Owners of existing homes who launch significant renovations of landscaping also face cutbacks, and grass will be all but banned in landscapes of new commercial, industrial and institutional buildings.

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### **[Judge Rules Against Uber](#)**

Problems are mounting for Uber as a California judge ruled Wednesday that the ride-sharing service should be suspended from operating in the state and pay a fine of \$7.3 million for failing to comply with laws that make sure any passenger can ride despite where they live, the [Los Angeles Times](#) reports. Uber plans to appeal.

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### **['No' to Airbnb in Hollywood](#)**

In the latest battle over Airbnb, housing activists are calling on city officials to investigate Airbnb rentals at a Hollywood apartment building a short distance from the Hollywood Walk of Fame, the [Los Angeles Times](#) reports. They say the rentals are taking much needed housing off the market.

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### **[AllenCo May Be Back](#)**

After a couple of years of no oil production, AllenCo Energy Inc. now wants to negotiate a settlement with the Los Angeles city attorney's office to resume drilling oil in a South Los Angeles neighborhood near USC even though local residents have complained in the past, the [Los Angeles Times](#) reports.

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### **[Tom Selleck Settles with Water District](#)**

Actor Tom Selleck, who had taken water from a hydrant in Thousand Oaks and transported it to his 60-acre place in Hidden Valley, has agreed to pay the Calleguas Municipal Water District nearly \$22,000, the cost of its investigation, and is pleased with the settlement, according to his attorney, the [Los Angeles Times](#) reports. The lawyer said the water had previously been paid for, but the district said water should not have been taken outside the district.



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### **[Layoffs at Haggen Stores](#)**

The Haggen Inc. grocery chain may be new to town but has announced it already plans to lay off workers and cut hours across Southern California, the [Los Angeles Times](#) reports. The grocer bought 83 Albertsons, Vons, Pavilions and Safeway stores mostly in Southern California earlier this year.

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### **[More Contaminants in Ground Water](#)**

Water Districts need to be careful when they clean and filter their raw water. Nearly one-fifth of the groundwater used for our public drinking water systems has toxic contaminants, including traces of arsenic and uranium, according to a Geological Survey study, the [Los Angeles Daily News](#) reports.

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### **[Fretting Over Pay Hike](#)**

The local garment industry fears the city's new minimum wage law, which will raise wages to \$15 an hour by 2020, could drive them out of town, the [Wall Street Journal](#) reports.

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### **[Labor Market Improves a Bit](#)**

At least there's a little good news on the job front. Jobless claims nationwide fell last week for the first time in a month, according to a Labor Department report released today, [Bloomberg](#) reports.

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### **[New Otter Pups Melt Hearts](#)**

The Los Angeles Zoo just unveiled video and photos of three endangered giant otter pups that were the first to be born at the zoo's new Rainforest of the Americas, [LAist](#) reports. They are the first non-hand reared giant otter babies the zoo has had.

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### **[Stocks Up](#)**

The Dow Jones Industrial average was up 33 points in early trading Thursday to 18,083. The S&P 500 was up 12 points to 2,120. The Nasdaq was up 43 points to 5,142. The LBJ Stock Index was up one point to 240.

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